

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGUI 01046 241930Z  
ACTION OC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 SY-05 /022 W  
-----242004Z 026474 /70

R 241050Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8699  
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 1046

ACCRA FOR RCO; KINSHASA FOR CEO-R; LAGOS FOR RSO

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ACOM ASEC AFSP  
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR NEW CRYSTALS FOR SHORT-RANGE E&E RADIOS  
FOLLOWING GOCAE SEIZURE OF PR-36

1. THE NIGHT OF MAY 9 CENTRAL AFRICAN POLICE SEIZED ONE OF THE EMBASSY'S PR-36 SHORT-RANGE RADIOS FROM A MARINE GUARD ON DUTY AT THE SITE OF THE NEW CHANCERY, CLAIMING THAT THE PRESENCE OF WALKIE-TALKIE RADIOS WAS NOT AUTHORIZED IN THE CAE. (THE GUARD WAS NOT TECHNICALLY ON EMBASSY PROPERTY WHEN THE SEIZURE TOOK PLACE.) WE IMMEDIATELY REQUESTED RETURN OF THE RADIO FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE NOTING THAT WE HAD NOTIFIED THE GOCAE IN 1970 THAT WE HAD THE SHORT RANGE E AND E RADIOS, I.E., THE BASE STATION AND THE HN-36'S. (THIS NOTIFICATION WAS IN RESPONSE TO A FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON RADIO TRANSMISSION FACILITIES AT EMBASSIES.) THE POLECE FINALLY SAID THAT THEY HAD NO OBJECTION TO OUR HAVING THE RADIO BACK BUT THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO MAKE THE REQUEST FORMALLY THROUGH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. WE HAVE DONE SO BUT HAVE RECEIVED NO RESPONSE, AND MAY BE MONTHS BEFORE WE RECEIVE ONE.

2. WHILE WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR RETURN OF THE SEIZED PR-36,  
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WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD GO AHEAD AND CHANGE THE CRYSTALS OF THE OTHER PR-36, THE HN-36'S AND THE BASE STATION ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE WILL NOT GET IT BACK FOR SOME TIME AND THAT THE GOCAE WILL BE LISTENING TO ANY USE OF EXISTING FREQUENCIES. WE WOULD THEN USE THE SHORT-RANGE SYSTEM AS WE HAVE IN THE PAST, SINCE THE GOCAE HAS NOT INDICATED ANY OBJECTION TO CONTINUED USE ALTHOUGH THEY ARE OBVIOUSLY NOW AWARE OF THE SITUATION. IN 1970

WE JUSTIFIED THE RADIOS AS NECESSARY FOR USE IN CASE OF EMERGENCY.  
WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO THE POLICE AND TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THAT  
WE NEED THE PR-36'S FOR COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE NEW CHANCERY  
AND THE SEABEE AND GUARD RESIDENCES ON THE SAME COMPOUND.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, THE MSG ON DUTY CARRIES OUR REMAINING PR-36  
WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO USE IT ONLY IF NECESSARY. THE MARINE  
AND SEABEE RESIDENCES EACH HAVE A HN-36. WE HAVE, HOWEVER,  
DISCONTINUED REGULAR NET-WIDE RADIO CHECKS FOR THE TIME BEING.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST CEO ON NEXT VISIT TO BANGUI BRING  
AND INSTALL CRYSTALS FOR EMBASSY'S FM 56, 12 HN-36'S AND 2  
PR-36'S.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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